

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 NEA-11 ISO-00 AGRE-00 COME-00 AID-05

SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 STR-07 /054 W

-----130297 270740Z /11

R 262137Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7217

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 03726

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ESTC, EIND, PN

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RICE EXPORT PANAMA TO  
HAITI

REF: A. PORT AU PRINCE 1690, B. PANAMA 6244(8/30/77)

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DEPT CHIEF FOREIGN  
BANK IN PANAMA REGARDING SHIPMENT OF 58,000 BAGS (100  
LBS EACH) TO PORT AU PRINCE VIA SS PANKY ON APRIL 5.

2. SHIPMENT SAID TO BE FALSELY LABELED AS "ETNA-IRAN"  
LONG-GRAINED WHITE RICE NO. 2 ACTUALLY PANAMANIAN RICE,  
NORMALLY 14-20 PER CENT BROKEN.

3. SUBJECT RICE SHIPPED BY AGRICULTURAL MARKET INSTITUTE  
(GOP AUTONOMOUS AGENCY) HEADED BY WALTER DAVIES. THIS IS  
PART OF RICE DEAL TOTALING AROUND DOLS 22 MILLION. OTHER  
BUYING COUNTRIES YET TO BE KNOWN.

4. FOLLOWING SAID TO HAVE VESTED INTERESTS IN THE TRANS-  
ACTION: (A) LT. COLONEL RUBEN DARIO PAREDES AND LT. COL.  
MANUEL A. NORIEGA, BOTH MEMBERS GENERAL STAFF PANAMANIAN  
NATIONAL GUARD. FORMER CHIEF OF G-1 SECTION (PERSONNEL  
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AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS) AND GOP MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE  
AND LIVESTOCK AND LATTER CHIEF OF G-2 SECTION  
(INTELLIGENCE); (B) MICHAEL AND URI STARCKMANN, BOTH  
BROTHERS AND TRADERS (NATIONALITY AND RESIDENCE UNKNOWN);  
(C) G. ESFANDIARY, WWII RETIRED GENERAL RELATED TO THE  
SHAH OF IRAN AND REPORTEDLY DIRECTOR NATIONAL IRANIAN  
OIL CO. AND OWNER SATURNO TRAVEL AGENCY IN TEHRAN; AND

(D) GEORGE KRUPNIK, GENERAL MANAGER OF FONOGRAM, S.A.  
(REF B). FONOGRAM WAS SUBJECT TO PRE-LICENSING CHECK EARLY  
L975 FOR CHEMICAL WEED KILLER BUTYL ESTER, ORDERED BY A  
COLOMBIAN FIRM, BUT REPORTEDLY ENDED IN CUBA FOR USE  
ON SUGARCANE FIELDS.

5. RICE TRANSACTION WAS REPORTEDLY FINANCED BY THE  
EISENBERG GROUP, WORLDWIDE FINANCING AND COMMODITY DEALERS.

6. ACCORDING TO THE FOREIGN BANK SOURCE THE ABOVE GROUP  
MUST HAVE SHARED A COMMISSION OF ABOUT DOLS 2 MILLION.  
THE SOURCE PROMISED TO PROVIDE A COPY OF L/C AS SOON AS  
HE COULD FIND IT. HE INDICATED THAT SOMEHOW IT DIS-  
APPEARED MYSTERIOUSLY FROM THE BANK.

7. EMBASSY WILL REPORT AS SOON AS MORE INFO BECOMES  
AVAILABLE. JORDEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RICE, EXPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PANAMA03726  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780224-0712  
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**Message ID:** 1cd7b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 PORT AU PRINCE 1690, 78 PANAMA 6244  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2550046  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RICE EXPORT PANAMA TO HAITI  
**TAGS:** ESTC, EIND, ETRD, PN, HA  
**To:** PORT AU PRINCE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/1cd7b695-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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